

SENATE BILL 471

By Watson

AN ACT to designate a segment of State Route 320 in Hamilton County in honor of the late Deputy Donald Bond, formerly of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their own concerns to ensure our collective freedom and personal safety, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals who daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee are fortunate to be served by the brave and dedicated law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line while carrying out their essential duties; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Sheriff Donald Bond, Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, was one such outstanding public servant; citizens across the state and the members of the General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of his tragic and untimely death in the line of duty on September 6, 2001; and

WHEREAS, a two-year veteran of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Bond truly enjoyed being a law enforcement officer, and he evidenced uncommon dedication to his duties despite the long hours and the uncertain and often dangerous nature of his profession; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Bonds performed his appointed duties in an admirable manner that distinguished him as a credit to both his community and his profession; Tennessee was undoubtedly made a better and safer place to live during his service; and

WHEREAS, a great tragedy befell the State of Tennessee on the fateful day of September 6, 2001, when Deputy Bonds was mortally wounded in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Hamilton County and Tennessee are still feeling the deep pain produced by this terrible and wasteful loss of one of our best and brightest law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Bond had earned the respect and admiration of his fellow law enforcement officers and a grateful public for his dedication and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Bond's loyalty and commitment to justice fueled his determination to become an officer of the law, and he regarded his work as a deputy sheriff to be of the utmost significance; and

WHEREAS, Donald Bond has left behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and valor in his public life as a law enforcement officer, compassion and loyalty in private life, and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to name a certain segment of State Route 320 in Hamilton County in Deputy Bond's honor to permanently commemorate the bountiful life of this exceptional police officer and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the segment of State Route 320 in Hamilton County from such route's intersection with Morris Hill Road to its intersection with State Route 321 (Ooltewah-Ringgold Road) is hereby designated as the "Deputy Donald Bond Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to an exemplary public servant who made the ultimate sacrifice of his life while protecting and serving his fellow citizens.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating the segment of State Route 320 described in Section 1 as the "Deputy Donald Bond Memorial Highway". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.